UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA · UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

PARENTING FOR LIFELONG HEALTH
ParentText

Job descriptions

Positions:	Research Officer
Location:	Cape Town, South Africa
Salary:	R442 667 – R745 000 Actual salary to be commensurate with qualifications and experience
Hours:	Full time
Contract type:	18 months
Reporting to:	Prof. Catherine Ward and Dr. Hlengiwe Gwebu
* The period of the employment relationship is fixed to 18 months, with a possibility of an extension depending on funding and performance.	

Overview of the role

An exceptional opportunity awaits a highly qualified Research Officer to join the Parenting for Lifelong Health (PLH) ParentText team in a ground-breaking research study aimed at optimizing and evaluating a parenting chatbot that helps reduce violence against children. The highly motivated and competent Research Officer will join our vibrant international team which is based within the Centre for Social Science Research at the University of Cape Town.

The main purpose of this role is supporting the co-ordination and implementation of the research study in Mpumalanga, including data collection, management, and analysis, as well as reporting. The appointed candidate will work with teams based at the University of Oxford and other organisations including Mothers2Mothers (m2m) in a linked set of studies as part of the Global Parenting Initiative (GPI). The GPI aims to meet the urgent need for scaled-up and sustained evidence-based interventions that promote playful parenting and learning through play and prevent sexual, physical, and emotional violence against children in the Global South. The postholder will be line managed by the study Research Manager.

Requirements:

- A Master's degree or higher postgraduate equivalent, in quantitative social science, public health, or related field
- 3 or more years' experience working within project management, project co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation
- Experience working in project management at academic, research, or non-governmental institutions.
- Experience in conducting fieldwork within resource-constrained environments.
- Demonstrable proficiency in quantitative data analysis (e.g., using R programme)
- Demonstrable proficiency in qualitative data analysis (e.g., using thematic analysis, framework analysis, NVivo etc.)
- Knowledge of digital based behavior change interventions or implementation tools.
- Knowledge of evidence-based programming and practice.
- Knowledge of monitoring and evaluation within behavioural interventions and large-scale implementation.
- Excellent English communication skills, including the ability to write for publications, present research findings and results, and interact with the wider academic, stakeholder, and policy communities as evidenced by a publication track record in reputable journals or major presses, commensurate with the career stage.

- Excellent intercultural communication, presentation and writing skills in English.

Advantageous:
- PhD in relevant Social Science discipline
- Experience in working in multiple settings on the African continent.
- Experience in being involved in the grant writing process
- Experience in study or data collection management
- Prior involvement in parenting research or work
- The ability to work independently and as part of a team, to multi-task, and to operate in a deadline driven environment.
- Excellent organisational, administration, and leadership skills

To apply
For more information and to apply, please submit your application to amanda.swartz@uct.ac.za, subject line **"Application for ParenText Research Officer"** before **30 MAY 2023**. Only email applications will be accepted.

Please include the following documents in a <u>single PDF</u>:
- Your CV (3 pages maximum) including contact details of three professional references.
- A supporting statement or cover letter which must clearly give the reference number for the post and demonstrate how you meet each of the selection criteria for the post using examples of your skills and experience, which may include evidence of experience gained in employment, education, or during career breaks (such as time out to care for dependents). Your application will be judged solely based on how you demonstrate that you meet the selection criteria stated above.
- HR201 form

Only shortlisted candidates who respond with the correct reference number will be contacted and may be required to undergo a competency test. Should you not receive a response within 30 days of the application closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

Reference number: E23528   **Closing date:** 30 May 2023

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UCT reserves the right not to appoint.